

Message Text

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53

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 VA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

/080 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ PHL: REUSHER: EM

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APPROVED BY EA/ PHL: REUSHER

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REGION 4: MR. CREAMER

----- 015689

R 211352 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E. O.11652: ADS

TAGS: SGEN, MARR, RP

SUBJ: USVA LEGISLATION

REF: MANILA 7081

1. EMBASSY CORRECT IN ITS ASSUMPTION THAT BOTH PHILIPPINE EMBASSY HERE AND EA/ PHL HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINE PORTIONS OF THE VA LEGISLATION WITH ATTENTIVE INTEREST.

2. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE OMNIBUS VETERANS LEGISLATION BILL (KNOWN AS THE " VETERANS HEALTH CARE EXPANSION ACT OF 1973") IS STILL PENDING IN THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS.

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3. SO FAR AS WE KNOW, THERE IS NO (REPEAT NO) OPPOSITION
IN EITHER HOUSE OR SENATE TO THOSE PROVISIONS OF THE BILL
WHICH WOULD CONTINUE THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AND VETER-
ANS HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CARE PROGRAMS IN THE PHILIPPINES.
HOWEVER, WE STILL DO NOT KNOW WHEN THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION
WILL FINALLY BE ENACTED.

4. FYI: WE UNDERSTAND THAT BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE
COMMITTEES HAVE CONSIDERED WHAT TO DO IN THE CONTINGENCY
THAT LEGISLATION CONTINUING THE PHILIPPINE PROGRAM DOES NOT
EMERGE UNTIL AFTER JUNE 30. SOME CONSIDERATION APPARENTLY
TION OF A PROVISION THAT THE ACT WOULD BE EFFECTIVE AS OF
1 JULY, 1973, WHICH PRESUMABLY WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE RETROAC-
TIVE FUNDING OF THE PHILIPPINE PROGRAM, SHOULD A GAP OCCUR
DUE TO LATENESS IN THE FINAL PASSAGE OF THE NECESSARY
LEGISLATION. END FYI. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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